

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF
MARYLAND COURT LAW LIBRARY DIRECTORS

Charles County Public Law Library
April 8, 2009 approved as of 05/12/2009

Members present: Mary Rice, Joan Bellistri, Janet Camillo, Steve Anderson and Sandy Brewer.

Welcome: Donna Burch, Court Administrator for Charles County Circuit Court
Ms. Burch stated that the library grants and assistance of Catherine McGuire were appreciated. She also presented the group with information on the historic Charles County courthouse.

Minutes : approved online as of 03/27/2009

Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Vote postponed. Will be done via email. Janet Camillo (currently vice chair) agreed to be Chair and Sandy Brewer agreed to be vice chair.

Quick discussion and updates

Organization and procedures

Conference funding and structure : In response to Tonya Baroudi's emailed question about our funding and advisory board we discussed the issue and agreed that we should have the same set up as the other conferences, i.e. no advisory board. Members of the other conferences receive funding for travel and meeting expenses from their home counties. Steve Anderson said he could probably fund minimum expenses such as tables at conferences.

Brochure, Value Statement and introductory letter :

Brochure: Joan Bellistri passed around a sample. It was suggested that we put more of what we do and are going to do in the brochure in bullet points; state that we were established by Order; keep tri-fold set-up; make information about the libraries/librarians smaller.

Value Statement: Drafted by Steve Anderson and adopted as official Conference statement with minor changes. (Steve used Catherine's Proxy). Reference to the updated standards to be added later when revised standards are final.

Letter: Janet Camillo will write a letter introducing the Conference to various entities within the judiciary and AOC. (Judicial, Court Clerk's and Court Administrator's Conferences, Faye Gaskin, Frank Broccolina, Pam Ortiz, Judge Bell, Judge Clyburn and

AOC agency heads as listed in the Maryland Manual.) Copies of the brochure and statement will be included.

Miscellaneous

Regarding library grants for next year, Steve mentioned that the State budget is not yet approved.

Steve reports that the People's Law Library site is still being updated. Interest in brochures was solicited from Court Clerks and others. Janet and Mary mentioned that they did not receive the request. Steve reports that posters for the site have been approved. The Pro Bono Legal Resource Center Directory is also being updated.

Janet had a question regarding the authenticity of the Maryland Session Laws recently loaded online by the Archives. According to Steve they are reliable but not officially authenticated. Use of the Archives Session Laws is hindered by the inability to search for or easily locate specific chapter numbers. HeinOnline, which has session laws back to 1995, may load earlier years online. The Hein publication would be easier to use. There is a possibility that LLMC may publish them as well. Authentication practices in use by the GPO are an example of how an authenticated document with a certificate appears.

AALL Judge Bell will be attending the SCCLL Trustees luncheon as VIP.

Information to and participation (attendance, exhibit tables and programs) with other organizations:

MAACM (Mid Atlantic Association for Court Management - Annual meeting in Baltimore, 10/11-14, 2009) : Janet talked to Richard Abbott, President who was agreeable to our presenting a program. The MAACM program chair had a question about having another library program since there was one last year. Janet Camillo will investigate last year's program.

We will have a program describing the Conference and Value of a Law Library for access to justice. We will also describe the People's Law Library. Joan Bellistri, Michael Craven, and Catherine McGuire, so far, have agreed to present the program.

Richard Abbott, MAACM President, also agreed that we could have a table in the exhibit hall for cost (approximately \$35). Janet will talk to him about the cost of a table with electricity. On the exhibit table we will have posters, brochures from the People's Law Library, the Conference, and the court libraries as well as a power point or slide show on a laptop.

MSBA Small Firm Conference is held in November at the BWI Marriott. We could investigate sending information with the Maryland State Law Library.

Education & Training Committee

Pro Bono and Assistance to the Self-Represented

PRBC: Maryland Partners for Justice Conference - 5/28/2009 - BCC : There was speculation that the conference may not take place because the link to information about the conference is not yet working. The MSLI has offered to participate with the Peoples Law Library.

Standards Review Committee

Joan created a document comparing the revised 2008 AALL standards, our old standards and comments received on the wiki. The attendees reviewed this document. It was suggested by Joan that we try to adopt the language of the AALL standards as much as possible. Those in attendance agreed in principle.

Several universal changes were also agreed to:

- use the word customer vs. patron
- use entity vs. governing body
- use SRL vs. *pro se*.
- use library director/head law librarian for head librarian
- use nonprint, electronic vs. alternate format
- leave out Chambers Libraries and District Court Libraries and deal with them as a separate project. (We will consider indicating in the recommended titles which titles are recommended for Circuit Court Chambers.)

The group reviewed the standards and agreed on changes to the AALL standards to reconcile with Maryland's needs. Joan will add the final version to the wiki for comment and approval.